post mortem shed were on the banks of the Kudilil canal. It would also be interesting to note that the historic Karumbali *koikal*, the birth-place of His Highness Martanda Varma Maha Raja was also situated on its bank.

The Dhanapadi canal connected the Kayankulam backwater and the Pamba river. As the locality was sandy, the canal was often silted up with sand from its banks, and the amount spent annually for its maintenance was really a waste. The canal should be deepened and parapet walls should be put up on both sides of the canal with wharfs at convenient places. An estimate for Rs. 80,000 was once sanctioned, but the work was not put in hand because the estimate was subsequently found to be low, especially in view of the rise in the prices of building materials. The work should be taken up without further delay.

The local dispensary was housed in a very inconvenient rented building with very little premises, a source of inconvenience to the patients resorting to the institution. The Government had acquired a site for the construction of a hospital but it was to be deplored that the Administrative Board, Medical Services, had decided that no new building was necessary for the time being. The member requested that the necessary buildings should be put up on the acquired site and the dispensary located there without delay.

There was no public latrine or urinal at Haripad and consequently, the travelling public were put to much difficulty and inconvenience. Roadsides and the premises of public offices were used as urinals and latrines. Public latrines and urinals should therefore be constructed by Government at an early date. The work could not be undertaken by the Municipal Council, because they had no funds for the purpose.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Govinda Pillai, as regards the metalling of the Kartikapalli-Kayankulam road running through Mutukulam and Keerikad, that can only be taken up after the completion of the main road at Kayankulam-Nangayarkulangara, a portion of the Alleppey-Quilon road. You must wait until then. As regards the metalling of the road from Haripad to Viyapuram that is rather an expensive matter as the estimate works out to about Rs. 26,000. I have asked the Chief Engineer to call for an estimate for gravelling the three miles of the sandy tract which forms the road.

As I said previously about the Mundattumkara canal, the people of the place have to contribute towards the reduction of expenditure by giving land free and so forth. I am not prepared even to consider the matter until people give proof that they can contribute substantially towards its cost.

The necessity for widening and extending the Kudilil canal has not been established, so, that will not be proceeded with either.

The estimate for deepening the Dhanapadi canal and the construction of parapet walls on its banks works out to Rs. 81,000. But, it is an old estimate and under present day conditions it will have to be altered. However the expenditure is so heavy that I do not propose to consider it now.

You propose that a new building should be constructed for the local dispensary. The dispensary at Haripad has already a good building and there is accommodation for in-patients as well. In any case Mavelikara is only a few miles away and they have a good hospital there.

Then you come to the construction of public latrines and urinals. That is a matter for the Municipality and you must do what you can to get the Municipality to do that work. It is not a work which the Government will undertake.

108. Needs of the Mavelikara taluk.

MR. MANIKETTU MADHAVA MENON (*Member, Municipal Council, Mavelikara*) said that the need for the construction of a bridge at the Prayikara *Attukadavu* on the Mavelikara-Tiruvalla road had been represented several times to the Government. When the Dewan visited the place, he was convinced of the necessity for the bridge and asked the Division Officer to prepare plans and estimates, and they had been prepared. He requested that the work might be put in hand at an early date.

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The Arattukadavu-Todiyil canal passed through many *punja* fields in the Mavelikara and Kunnattur taluks and it was once very useful for traffic and irrigation. It was subsequently silted up and narrowed and had become quite unfit for either of the above purposes. If widened and deepened and steps taken to prevent silting up, it would be very useful for the adjacent wet lands. As a result of the representations made on the subject by the members for the Mavelikara taluk at previous sessions of the Assembly, some improvements had been carried out. But they were not sufficient. Further improvements should be carried out without delay and the canal made useful for irrigation.

Similarly, the Tazhakara, the Vettiyar and the Karingalichal canals had also become quite unfit for irrigation purposes. During the rainy season, the surplus water could not be drained away because the canals were silted up ; and during the summer season, there was not sufficient water in them. These canals should be widened and deepened. It was gratifying to note that the Government had asked the Public Works Department to investigate the last mentioned canal. The works suggested should be put in hand soon.

Snake bites and deaths due to them were becoming daily occurrence in the Mavelikara taluk. There were expert *vishavaidyans* in the taluk and the chief among them *viz.*, Mr. M. Krishna Pillai of Tekkekara Velattandattu house had been maintaining a private *vaidyasala* for the past 30 years. He should be given a grant-in-aid from the Government for opening a *vishavaidyasala* at a convenient place.

Mavelikara was one of the foremost taluks of the State, and had the honour of being the birth place of the members of the Ruling Family. The Magistrate's Court established in the taluk for a very long time had been abolished. The file of the Kayankulam Magistrate was becoming heavier, and the litigant public were put to much hardship and difficulty. Either a Magistrate's Court should be established at Mavelikara or the local Tahsildar should be invested with magisterial powers.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Madhavan Menon, an estimate has been prepared by the Sub-Division officer for a bridge at Prayikara, and that is now being scrutinized by the Chief Engineer, and until he has finally passed the estimate and made recommendations, it will not be possible to sanction the commencement of the work.

The possibility of improving the Arattukadavu-Todyil canal is being investigated. So too, the Tazhakkara canal. The improvement has been sanctioned and provision made in the budget. The work is about to be commenced. As regards the Vettiyar canal, there is an estimate for Rs. 5,280 which is being scrutinized by the Chief Engineer. He will report on the matter to Government shortly.

As regards the Karingalichal canal there is an estimate for Rs. 10,000 and that is under consideration by the Government.

As to the *vishavaidyasala* I must wait and see what the Director of Ayurveda has to say about it.

In regard to the Magistrate's Court, the matter is under consideration. Time is not yet ripe for decision and you will be informed of it in due course.

109. Needs of the Mavelikara taluk.

MR. S. GOVINDAN NAMPUTIRI (*Member, Mavelikara taluk*) first spoke about the need for the establishment of a Girls' High School and a college at Mavelikara. It was a long-standing request of the local inhabitants. There were 15 High Schools and many Middle Schools in the taluks of Mavelikara, Kartikapalli, Karunagapalli, Chengannur and Tiruvalla. There were colleges in North and South Travancore but none in Central Travancore. Consequently, people in Central Travancore were denied the full benefits of collegiate education. They were put to great loss and inconvenience in sending students abroad. At least a Second Grade college should be opened at Mavelikara.

Except the Taluk Cutcherry and Police Station, all the public offices in the taluk were held in rented buildings and a sum of Rs. 1,500 was being annually spent for payment of rents. All the rented buildings were located in remote places and were inconvenient and incommodious for holding public offices. The Munsiff's Court

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